Message Text

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DRAFTED BY TREAS/IDB/RCHLEBOWSKI:DA
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ODF:EWLOLLIS, ACTING
TREAS/IDB:JABWINDER
TREAS/IDN:ANACHMANOFF
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PASS DEBBIE SULLIVAN - PARIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, AFDB, FR

SUBJECT: AFDB NON-REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP

REF: PARIS 25538 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 1. THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON U.S. POSITION ON NON-REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK PER REFTEL.
- 2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY FOLLOWING POINTS TO MLLE MOEVUS:
- (1) U.S. STRONGLY SUPPORTS AFDB AND INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE

POSITIVELY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY IN NEGOTIATIONS ON NON-AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP.

(2) WHILE U.S. HAS NOT DEVELOPED FIRM POSITION ON ALL OF THE ISSUES, SEVERAL PROPOSED CONDITIONS FOR NON-AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP MIGHT CAUSE DIFFICULTIES AND REQUIRE MORE DETAILED EXAMINATION AND CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS. SPECIFICALLY, PROPOSAL THAT NON-AFRICAN STATES HAVE ONE-THIRD OF TOTAL VOTES IN BANK AND THREE OUT OF 12 BANK DIRECTORS MAY NOT PROVIDE NON-AFRICAN STATES WITH SUFFICIENT VOICE IN SHAPING AFDB POLICIES, PARTICULARLY SINCE THEY CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE BULK OF BANK'S USABLE RESOURCES

(I.E. PAID-IN CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY AND HIGH-QUALITY CALLABLE CAPITAL).

(3) OTHER ISSUES WHICH U.S. BELIEVES WILL HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED IN COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS INCLUDE SIZE OF BANK CAPITAL INCREASE IN LIGHT OF ITS ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY, LOCAL CURRENCY COMPONENT OF AFRICAN PAID-IN CAPITAL, AND IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFDB OPERATIONS. CHRISTOPHER

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